

AGN. NO. \_\_\_\_\_

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR ZEV YAROSLAVSKY

September 23, 2008

Proposition 4 is a proposed constitutional amendment on the November 4, 2008 general election ballot that would require physicians to notify the parents of any pregnant minor seeking an abortion, and prohibit the physicians from performing the procedure until at least 48 hours after that parental notification.

The measure would provide for some limited exceptions under which family members other than parents may be notified, and under specific circumstances allow a court, without such notification, to permit an abortion to take place. But many experts in the field of child and maternal health believe that parental notification laws can endanger the lives of young women by deliberately jeopardizing their access to safe medical care.

Moreover, Proposition 4 would undermine these young women's right to freely make their own reproductive choices, and represents a significant governmental intrusion into deeply private and sensitive matters. It could significantly disrupt internal family communications and compromise the ability to make difficult personal decisions, affecting the lives of young women and their families and carrying consequences ranging far into the future.

MOTION

MOLINA \_\_\_\_\_

YAROSLAVSKY \_\_\_\_\_

KNABE \_\_\_\_\_

ANTONOVICH \_\_\_\_\_

BURKE \_\_\_\_\_

In 2005, voters wisely rejected Proposition 73, a measure that attempted to enact the same parental notification and waiting period requirements. On October 17, 2006, our Board approved my motion to oppose Proposition 85, another measure that would have imposed similar parental-notification requirements, and which was similarly rejected by California voters. Now the voters are faced yet again with the same flawed proposal.

**I, THEREFORE, MOVE** that the Board of Supervisors express its strong opposition to Proposition 4 on the November 4, 2008 general election ballot, and urge voters to reject this counterproductive effort to interfere with young women's access to safe and appropriate medical care.

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JEB: Proposition 4 Opposition – Nov. 4, 2008 election